

REMARKS

Claims 26-36, 40, 41 and 44-50 are all the claims pending in the application, where claims 16-18, 37-39 and 42 are withdrawn from consideration, and claims 44-45 are added.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejects claims 26-36, 40 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dowling et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,574,239; hereinafter “Dowling”). For at least the following reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

All of the claims require a “session management server”. However, Dowling is directed toward “a system whereby a mobile worker and a central server may maintain a virtually continuous connection without the need to maintain a physical connection continuously,” (col. 1, lines 9-12). That is, Dowling's invention is directed toward saving time and effort as far as modem connections were involved (col. 1, lines 15-45). Each re-connection of a remote device to an application program requires a long physical re-connection (modem reconnection) that is followed by re-connection in higher levels of communication ending with the highest communication layer - the application layer. Such connections take a long time and generate significant overhead communication (col. 1, lines 15-45). On the other hand, keeping a physical connection continuously connected may be costly (col. 1, lines 15-45). Additionally, the physical connection itself may not be always be available (col. 1, lines 15-45).

Accordingly, Dowling discloses a virtual session server to be in a continuous connection with the application program so that the remote device is only required to reconnect to the virtual session server. That is, Dowling discloses that the remote device is disconnected at all

communication levels, starting from the physical layer and ending with the application layer of the 7 communication layers defined by the International Standard Organization (ISO). Dowling merely discloses a communication enhancing invention, communication accelerating invention or the like. With respect to the teachings of Dowling, there is no management of sessions since the remote device is disconnected, and any change of session status that the remote device has to initiate requires its re-connection. For Example, Dowling discloses that “when the user of the remote unit 100 is actively connected to the virtual session server 215 and a call comes in directed to the remote user’s extension” then “the physical connection is automatically and temporarily dropped and the call is forwarded to the remote user” (col. 14, lines 18-25). A virtual connection to the application is maintained through the virtual server (col. 14, lines 25-26). When the remote unit later reconnects, the virtual session is placed into an active state and session communications resumes as though uninterrupted (col. 3, lines 45-60). Clearly, Dowling fails to teach or suggest a session management server, as recited in claims 26 and 40.

New Claims

Applicant adds new claims 44-50, support for which may be found throughout the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of the subject matter recited therein, and at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 26.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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